



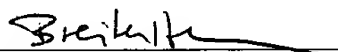
**In the United States Patent and Trademark Office**

Appl. No.: 09/869,668 Confirmation No. 7045  
Applicant(s): Fitzgerald, et al.  
Filed: 01/02/02  
TC/A.U.: 1624  
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Docket No.: Le A 33 162  
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**CERTIFICATION OF MAILING UNDER 37 C.F.R. 1.8(a)**

I hereby certify that this correspondence and any papers referred to as attached are being deposited, on the date shown below, with the United States Postal Service, with sufficient postage, as first class mail in an envelope addressed to: Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450.

Date:

  
Tilman Breitenstein

**Commissioner for Patents**

**P.O. Box 1450**

**Alexandria, VA 22313-1450**

**AMENDMENT**

Sir:

This is in response to the Office action dated 05/21/2003. A three-month extension of time in which to respond to the Office Action is respectfully requested. A Petition and Fee for extending the response period three months, up to and including November 21, 2003 is enclosed. Please amend the above-identified application as follows:

**Amendments to the claims** are reflected in the listing of claims which begins on page 3 of this

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**Remarks/Arguments** begin on page 35 of this paper.